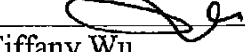


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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 021629-000400US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:   
Tiffany Wu

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

SUNMI CHEW et al.

Application No.: 10/624,451

Filed: July 21, 2003

For: APPARATUS AND METHODS  
FOR DELIVERY OF VARIABLE  
LENGTH STENTS

Confirmation No.: 5568

Examiner: HO, UYEN T.

Art Unit: 3731

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the foreign patent references are enclosed.

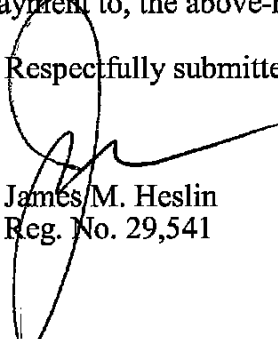
It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

This IDS is being filed before the mailing date of the final Office Action or  
Notice of Allowance.

Please charge the IDS fee of \$180 to Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please  
deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Heslin  
Reg. No. 29,541

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 650-326-2400  
Fax: 650-326-2422  
JMH:tfw

Substitute for form 1449A&B/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (Use as many sheets as necessary)				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
				Application Number	10/624,451
				Filing Date	July 21, 2003
				First Named Inventor	CHEW, SUNMI
				Art Unit	3731
				Examiner Name	HO, UYEN T.
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	021629-000400US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	1	4,988,356	01-29-1991	Crittenden et al.	
	2	5,334,187	08-02-1994	Fischell et al.	
	3	5,702,418	12-30-1997	Ravenscroft	
	4	5,976,107	11-02-1999	Mertens et al.	
	5	6,254,612	07-03-2001	Hieshima	
	6	6,383,171	05-07-2002	Gifford et al.	
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	8	6,451,050	09-17-2002	Rudakov et al.	
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	15	2002/0156496	10-24-2002	Chermoni	
	16	2004/0215165	10-28-2004	Coyle et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>3</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	17	EP	0 505 686		09-30-1992	Advanced Cardiovascular System		<input type="checkbox"/>
	18	WO	03/051425		06-26-2003	Bionx Implants Inc.		<input type="checkbox"/>

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials *	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.